



AP Photo/Petros Karadjias, File

In this April 5, 2011, file photo, Cyprus President Dimitris Christofias speaks during a news conference focusing on his government's domestic policies at the Presidential Palace in the divided island's capital Nicosia, Cyprus.

Cyprus ex-President Dimitris Christofias dead at 72

By MENELAOS HADJICOSTIS
Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Dimitris Christofias, Cyprus' first communist president whose troubled tenure was marked by near financial ruin that necessitated an international rescue, uproar over a deadly Iranian munitions blast and failure to end the country's ethnic division, died Friday. He was 72.

Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades confirmed his predecessor's death in a written message, expressing "deep sorrow." Anastasiades said he and Christofias may have been on divergent political paths, but he did what he thought was best for his country.

Conveying his condolences to the Christofias family, Anastasiades said his predecessor had been in frail health for many years.

Christofias, who was president from 2008-2013, had been in a critical condition since being admitted to Nicosia General hospital in May. Israeli doctors had assisted Cypriot colleagues in treating the former president. Christofias' personal doctor Michael Minas told state-run Cyprus News Agency the former president died at 5:36 p.m. local time (1436 GMT; 10:36 a.m. EDT).

Condolences to Christofias' family poured in from Greek Cypriot political leaders as well as the leader of the breakaway Turkish Cypriots Mustafa Akinci, who did so in a tweet.

Greek Prime Minis-

ter Alexis Tsipras praised Christofias as a "genuine leader" of the Cypriot people and a "great fighter of the Left" who was always on the frontline of the struggle for social justice and for reunifying Cyprus.

Anastasiades will chair a Cabinet meeting Saturday to work out the details of Christofias' funeral arrangements.

Christofias was the only Cypriot president not to seek re-election, citing his failure to achieve his "life's vision" of reunifying the country that had been split since Turkey invaded in 1974 following a coup by supporters of union with Greece.

After his March 2008 rise to power, Christofias was hailed as the leader with the best chance to achieve a peace breakthrough that had eluded his predecessors, thanks to long-standing ties with the Turkish Cypriot left-wing trade union movement.

But all the optimism faded as talks with two Turkish Cypriot leaders dragged on over five years without tangible results. Some faulted Christofias for allowing momentum to drain from the process.

"I will leave truly miserable, because what I had promised can't happen given Turkey's intransigence, so from here on in, I'll suffer along with you as a common citizen," he had told municipal officials shortly before leaving office in 2013.

Christofias' "man-of-the-people" persona, which he often played up to underscore his working-class roots, endeared him to many.

OBITUARIES

Daniel Edward Wilcox III

Fort Collins, Colorado
July 27, 1981 — May 26, 2019

Daniel Edward Wilcox III was born in Madang, Papua New Guinea, on July 27, 1981, to Rosalind and Daniel E. Wilcox Jr. He passed away at his home in Fort Collins, Colorado, on May 26, 2019. He was 37 years old.

Daniel graduated as valedictorian from high school in Toledo, Oregon, in 1999. He received a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Oregon State University, then an MBA from Portland State University. He was working as a Senior Financial Analyst for Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

Daniel had an interesting childhood, growing up in the jungles of Papua New Guinea

among the Kiyale people, about 70 miles from the nearest road. He loved traveling all over the world and working with wood. Daniel was loyal and caring to friends and family. He especially loved children and animals.

He is survived by his parents, a sister, a brother-in-law, and their three children. There are several aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends as well.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, June 29 at Oxbow Regional Park, 3010 S.E. Oxbow Pkwy, Gresham, OR 97080-8916, from 1-6 p.m. at the Beaver Lodge. Anyone who wishes to come is welcome.



Wilcox

Robert 'Bob' Earl Smith

Union
Nov. 9, 1935 — June 19, 2019

Robert "Bob" Earl Smith, 83, of Union passed away on Wednesday, June 19, 2019, at his residence.

A graveside service will be held at the Hermiston Cemetery on Friday, June 28, 2019, at 10 a.m. Following the graveside service, a reception will be held at the Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield, Oregon.

Bob was born on November 9, 1935, in Hereford, Texas, to Claude and Alline Smith. He resided in Dimmitt, Texas, Weed, California, Sutherlin, Oregon, Twickenham, Oregon, Stanfield, Oregon, and Union, Oregon. He attended schools in Weed, California, Sutherlin, Oregon, and graduated from Mitchell High School in 1955. Robert served our country while in the United States Navy. He married Janice Bain on September 17, 1957, in Pendleton, Oregon.

Bob was employed with his family logging until November 1959, when he hired on with the Union Pacific Railroad as a carman helper. From 1972-1977, he was also a derrick operator and then became the car foreman in 1977. He was with the railroad for 38 years and

retired in 1998. Robert was a volunteer for the Stanfield Volunteer Fire Department from 1964-1977, with nine years of being the chief. Bob and Jan were snowbirds going to Winterhaven, California, for 21 years. He was a life member of the Union County Museum, where he was an enthusiastic volunteer, many an idea was realized through his handyman abilities.

Bob is survived by his children, Valerie Stockhoff (Hank) of Union, Oregon, and Robbin Swales of Lodi, California; brothers, Raymond Smith (Jo) and James Smith, both of Pendleton, Oregon; sister, Nancy Jeanes of Spokane, Washington; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren and 16 nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Janice; daughter, Carrie Smith; parents, Claude and Alline, and step-mother, Opal Smith.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Union County Museum, 331 S. Main Street, Union, OR 97883.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneral-chapel.com.



Smith

DEATH NOTICES

Janice Mary Arsenault

Umatilla
July 25, 1974 — June 17, 2019

Janice Mary Arsenault, 44, of Umatilla, died Monday, June 17, 2019, as the result of a boating accident near Hermiston. She was born July 25, 1974, on Prince Edward Island, Canada. A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, June 29, 2019, at 3 p.m. in the Hermiston High School Commons. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories of Janice with her family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Burl Green

Canby
July 25, 1932 — Oct. 24, 2018

Former Pendleton resident Burl Irvin Green died Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018. He was born July 25, 1932, in La Grande. A graveside service will be held Saturday, July 20 at 11 a.m. at Olney Cemetery, Pendleton. A celebration of life will follow at 1 p.m. in the Bamboo Room at Pendleton Center for the Arts.

Bradley Eugene Peterson

Pendleton
Oct. 2, 1955 — June 20, 2019

Bradley E. Peterson, 63, of Pendleton died Thursday, June 20, 2019, at his residence. He was born Oct. 2, 1955, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Pendleton.

Audrey Lee Stanley

Lexington
May 26, 1932 — June 19, 2019

Audrey Lee Stanley, 86, of Lexington, died Thursday, June 19, 2019, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. She was born May 26, 1932, to John and Wahnetta Yoakum Stanley in Rainville, West Virginia. A funeral service will be held Monday June 24, 2019, at 11 a.m. at the Community Bible Church of Lexington. A concluding service and burial will follow at the Lexington Cemetery. Arrangements are with Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner.

UPCOMING SERVICES

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

FERGUSON, DORIS — Celebration of life service at 1 p.m. in the banquet room at The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston.

MAEL, JAMES — Graveside service with military honors at 11 a.m. at the Monument Cemetery. A celebration of life remembrance gathering and potluck luncheon will follow at the Monument Senior Center, 269 Main St.

THAUT, LEO — Funeral service at 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 850 S.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Burial with military honors follows at the Hermiston Cemetery.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

FERGUSON, DORIS — Graveside service at 1 p.m. at the Athena Cemetery.

NEWBOLD, MICHAEL — Celebration of life service at 2 p.m. at Weston-McEwen High School, 540 E. Main St., Athena.

WESTON, JANE — Memorial service at 1 p.m. in the chapel at Burns Mortuary, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Burial will follow at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon. A celebration of life gathering will follow the services at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon.

MONDAY, JUNE 24

STANLEY, AUDREY — Funeral service at 11 a.m. at the Community Bible Church, 170 B. St., Lexington with concluding service and burial to follow at the Lexington Cemetery.

TUCKER, BETTY — Memorial service at 1 p.m. at Crossroads Community Church, 350 N. Sherman Ave., Stanfield.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

No services scheduled

MEETINGS

MONDAY, JUNE 24

CASON'S PLACE CHILDREN AND FAMILY GRIEF RECOVERY CENTER BOARD, 6 p.m., Cason's Place, 1416 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. All those interested in volunteering are encouraged to attend. (Matt Terjeson 503-720-1620)

UMATILLA BASIN WATERSHED COUNCIL, 6 p.m., Eastern Oregon Higher Education Center room 134, 975 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston. (Michael T. Ward 541-276-2190)

MILTON-FREEWATER CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library Albee Room, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. (541-938-5531)

HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Hermiston City Hall council chambers, 180 N.E. Second St. (541-567-5521)

IRRIGON COMMUNITY PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Irrigon Fire Station, 705 N. Main St. (541-922-3047)

MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Pioneer Memorial Hospital conference room, 564 E. Pioneer Drive, Heppner. 6 p.m. provider dinner, 6:30 p.m. board meeting. (Tonia Adams 541-676-2942)

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

UMATILLA-MORROW COUNTY HEAD START, 11:30 a.m., Head Start boardroom, 110 N.E. Fourth St., Hermiston. (Monina Ward 541-564-6878)

IONE SCHOOL DISTRICT, 3:30 p.m., Ione Community School, 445 Spring St.; 4:30 p.m. board meeting, 5:30 p.m. budget committee meeting. (Kim Thul 541-422-7131)

UMATILLA PLANNING COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m., Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St. (Brandon Seitz 541-922-3226 ext. 103)

MORROW COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman. (Stephanie Loving 541-922-4624)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, 9 a.m., Bartholomew Government Building upper conference room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner. (Roberta Lutcher 541-676-9061)

HERMISTON LIBRARY BOARD, 4 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882)

LOTTERY

Thursday, June 20, 2019
Lucky Lines
4-5-11-15-FREE-19-21-25-31
Estimated jackpot: \$56,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 5-5-2-6

4 p.m.: 5-5-4-0
7 p.m.: 6-9-1-2
10 p.m.: 3-5-0-9
Friday, June 21, 2019
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 6-7-8-7

U.S. agency seeks 'hosts' for rotting whales amid die-off

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND — So many gray whales are dying off the U.S. West Coast that scientists and volunteers dealing with the putrid carcasses have an urgent request for coastal residents: Lend us your private beaches so these ocean giants can rot in peace.

The number of dead whales washing ashore in Washington state alone — 29 as of this week — means almost every isolated public beach has been used. Authorities are now scrambling to find remote stretches of sand that are privately owned, with proprietors who don't mind hosting a rotting creature that's bigger than a school bus and has a stench to match its size.

"The preferred option is, at all times, that they just be allowed to decompose naturally," said John Calambokidis, a research biologist with the Olympia, Washington-based Cascadia Research. "But it gets harder and harder to find locations where they can rot without creating a problem. This is a new wrinkle."

At least 81 gray whale corpses have washed

ashore in California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska since Jan. 1. If tallies from Mexico and Canada are added, the number of stranded gray whales reaches about 160 and counting, said Michael Milstein, spokesman for NOAA Fisheries.

U.S. scientists last month declared the die-off an "unusual mortality event," a designation that triggered additional resources to respond to the deaths and launch an investigation.

The first private-beach owners to respond, a Washington state couple, received their carcass earlier this month. Volunteers with the so-called "stranding network" — a coalition of nonprofits, research institutions and government agencies — attached a rope to the dead whale's tail and used a motorboat to tow it 3 miles (4.8 kilometers) along the coast to the couple's beach, where they anchored it to tree stumps.

Mario Rivera and his veterinarian wife, Stefania Worwag, asked their neighbor's permission first and are using copious amounts of lime to speed decomposition and reduce the stench. They visit the carcass daily and consider it a



AP Photo/Mario Rivera, File

Officials examine a decomposing whale that washed ashore on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, in Port Ludlow, Wash.

scientific opportunity.

"It's decomposing nicely. There've been a couple of days this week when I was out there mowing and I was like, 'Oooph,'" Rivera said of smell from the 40-foot (12-meter) adult male whale sitting 150 yards (137 meters) from his house.

"But it's only temporary. It's only going to be smelling for about a month — and after that, the smell's gone."

Since the Port Townsend, Washington, couple welcomed the carcass, 15 more private individuals have signed on to do the same, mostly in remote areas around the Salish Sea in far northwest Washington state, Milstein said.

The number of dead whales found in Washington state this year has already surpassed the tally for 2000, when the last

significant die-off of gray whales occurred on the West Coast. In Oregon, five dead gray whales have been documented as of this week, more than in all of last year. California has seen 37, and 10 have come ashore in Alaska.

Experts estimate the washed-up whales represent just 10 percent of the total number of the dead, with the rest sinking into the sea unnoticed by humans.

In past years, the majority of stranded whales were left to rot in place after necropsies were done. A few were buried, hauled to a landfill or sunk at sea. Towing them back out to sea isn't the preferred method because the bodies could wash up again or could cause problems if they float into shipping channels and collide with boats.

Officials have learned